

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for exclusively binding data to a data processing system comprising:
  - a data storage device in which said data is stored;
  - a battery that provides a binding signal independent of system power supplied to said data processing system; and
  - a binding latch that receives said binding signal, wherein said binding latch is set upon removal of said binding signal.
2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said binding latch is a non-volatile storage device.
3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said data storage device is contained within a detachable medium within said data processing system.
4. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said detachable medium is a circuit card or a module detachably mounted onto a system planar.
5. The apparatus of claim 3, further comprising a charge pump within said detachable medium, wherein said charge pump supplies power to set said binding latch in response to removal of said detachable medium from said system planar.

1       6.     The apparatus of claim 3, further comprising a signal line connecting said binding  
2     signal from said battery to a sensing input on said detachable medium.

1       7.     The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said binding signal is applied to a dedicated  
2     binding pin on said detachable medium.

1       8.     The apparatus of claim 3, further comprising circuit means within said detachable  
2     medium for detecting removal of said binding signal from said binding pin.

1       9.     The apparatus of claim 3, further comprising:  
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      circuit means within said detachable medium for detecting the state of said binding  
      latch; and

      circuit means within said detachable module, which, in response to detecting that said  
      binding latch is set, removes said data from said data storage device.

1       10.    A method for exclusively binding data to a data processing system comprising:

2       detachably coupling a data storage device that stores said data within said data  
3     processing system;

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5       providing a battery binding signal that is independent of system power supplied to  
6     said data processing system; and

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8       in response to removal of said battery binding signal, setting a non-volatile binding  
9     latch that indicates the removal of said battery binding signal.

1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein said data storage device is contained within a  
2 detachable medium within said data processing system.

1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein said detachable medium is a circuit card or a  
2 module, said method further comprising detachably mounting said detachable medium onto  
3 a system planar.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein said detachable medium includes a charge pump,  
said method further comprising supplying power from said charge pump to set said binding  
latch in response to removal of said detachable medium from said system planar.

14. The method of claim 11, further comprising connecting said binding signal from said  
battery to a sensing input on said detachable medium.

15. The method of claim 11, further comprising applying said binding signal to a  
dedicated binding pin on said detachable medium.

1 16. The method of claim 11, further comprising detecting within said detachable medium  
2 removal of said binding signal from said binding pin.

3 17. The method of claim 11, further comprising:

4 detecting the state of said binding latch; and

5 in response to detecting that said binding latch is set, removing said data from said  
6 data storage device.

1 18. The method of claim 17, wherein said detecting the state of said binding latch is  
2 processed by mounting said detachable medium into said data processing system or another  
3 data processing system.

1 19. A method for logically binding data within a data processing system, said method  
2 comprising:

storing said data within a detachable subsystem of said data processing system;

installing said detachable subsystem onto a mounting site within said data processing  
system, wherein said installing includes coupling a battery signal to a dedicated connection  
point on said detachable subsystem; and

responsive to an interruption of said battery signal to said dedicated connection point,  
setting a binding latch within said detachable subsystem, wherein said set binding latch  
results in removal of said data from said detachable subsystem upon a subsequent installation  
of said detachable subsystem.